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FACT SHEET

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 10, 2006

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South Asia Earthquake: Relief and Reconstruction

A magnitude 7.6 earthquake struck Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan on October 8, 2005, at 8:50 a.m. local time, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Its epicenter was located near Muzaffarabad, the capital of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and approximately 60 miles north-northeast of Islamabad. Aftershocks continue in the affected areas. Mountainous terrain, cold weather, and damaged or collapsed infrastructure constrict the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The most affected areas are the Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP), Northern Punjab, and AJK in Pakistan, and Indian-administered Kashmir in India.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE ¹		SOURCE
Pakistan	73,338 dead 69,412 injured 2.8 million homeless	Government of Pakistan (GOP) – February 3 GOP – February 3 International Organization for Migration (IOM) – October 21
India	1,309 dead 6,622 injured 150,000 homeless	Government of India (GOI) – October 26 GOI – October 26 GOI – October 14

USAID Responds

In Pakistan:

- USAID has provided more than \$67.4 million in humanitarian assistance to earthquake-affected communities. USAID identified shelter, relief supplies, logistics, health, water and sanitation, and livelihoods support as priority sectors for relief operations. USAID has also provided textbooks and school supplies.
- USAID has provided nearly \$6.4 million in emergency relief commodities, including transport costs, for earthquake-affected populations. USAID has completed 25 flights of emergency relief commodities delivering a total of 97,725 blankets, 1,570 winterized tents, 8,050 rolls of plastic sheeting for approximately 36,672 families, 15,000 water containers, 17 water bladders, two water purification units, 10 U.N. World Health Organization emergency health kits, 20 concrete cutting saws, and 136 shelters donated by Alaska Shelters.
- As part of our overall response, USAID has provided more than \$22.6 million in funding to the U.N. South Asia Earthquake Flash Appeal, to support transitional shelter programs, food, health, water and sanitation, humanitarian air service, logistical coordination, and the transport of supplies to affected populations and movement of those populations to safe areas.
- On October 27, the South Asia Earthquake Relief Fund was launched by five private-sector CEOs, supported by President Bush, to spearhead private fundraising efforts for relief and reconstruction in the aftermath of the South Asia earthquake. To date, this fund has received more than \$18 million in cash and pledges, and has allocated \$4.5 million to five NGOs focused on relief efforts and will provide remaining funds for reconstruction efforts. [The USAID Acting Administrator currently sits on the fund's Advisory Committee.](#)

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These figures are the best available estimates.



USAID Responds Cont...

- USAID's Disaster Assistance Response Team has been on the ground since October 10, assessing humanitarian needs, assisting with targeting and coordination of USG assistance in conjunction with USAID's Mission in Pakistan, and providing technical support as needed. Headquartered in Islamabad, the USAID has also established bases of operations in Muzaffarabad and Mansehra.
- In addition to the provision of sheets of tarpaulin, blankets, and winterized and non-winterized tents in support of the overall shelter strategy, USAID funded nine NGOs to provide shelter assistance to approximately 75,500 households.
- USAID has responded to the U.N. World Food Program emergency operation for Pakistan with 6,790 metric tons of vegetable oil and 480 metric tons of wheat soy blend, totaling approximately \$8.8 million.

In India

- From October 11 to 17, USAID assisted its Mission in India with damage and needs assessments and making recommendations regarding USG assistance. The USAID's Regional Advisor for Foreign Disaster Assistance and a representative from the India Mission conducted a post-earthquake visit to Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir on November 15 and 16 in order to monitor program progress of USAID-funded partners.

USAID Rebuilds

The United States is committed to working with the Government of Pakistan and its people to help build back better:

- On January 21, the U.S. Government signed a four-year, \$200 million agreement with the Government of Pakistan to support the earthquake reconstruction program.
- USAID will support Pakistani reconstruction programs by constructing new schools and healthcare facilities in NWFP and AJK. In addition to physical construction, USAID will ensure that each building is fully equipped and furnished.
- Working closely with the Government of Pakistan, USAID will soon start construction on a middle school in Balakot, one of the towns most affected. Construction will begin later this year on 60 more schools.
- Later this year, construction will also begin on health care facilities including a hospital, four rural health centers and 20 basic health units.
- USAID will also provide professional training for new and existing health and education personnel and will re-establish systems needed to sustain these facilities.
- USAID is restoring livelihood opportunities for individuals in earthquake-affected areas, including training of unskilled workers to promote earthquake resistant shelter construction standards and practices.

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